

Docket No. 52022/TJD/M881
Appln No. To be assigned
Amdt date February 25, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Miniplate designed for the osteosynthesis of a phalange P1 (first phalange), comprising firstly an anchor and positioning stud (2) at one of its ends approximately perpendicular to the plate (1) and an adjacent attachment screw, designed to cooperate with the widest proximal end (4) of the phalange (5) and secondly at least one other attachment screw passing through a compression hole (7) in the said plate and designed to cooperate with a distal end (8) of the same phalange (5), ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the miniplate has an anatomic profile in its frontal plane and in its sagittal plane.

2. (Currently Amended) Miniplate according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the sagittal profile of the anatomic miniplate is significantly curved to match the corresponding profile of the phalange (5) while its frontal profile has a widened area (1A) to approximately cover the widest proximal end (4) of the said phalange (5).

3. (Currently Amended) Miniplate according to ~~either~~ claim 1, ~~or 2 characterised in that~~ wherein the stud (2) and the hole (3) intended for the adjacent attachment screw located in the widest proximal part (4) of the phalange (5) are positioned

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approximately on the same transverse axis (x, x') of the phalange for better use of the available surface in this widened area (4) of the phalange (5).

4. (Currently Amended) Miniplate according to claim 3, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the stud (2) is separated from the hole (3) intended for the adjacent attachment screw, by a hollowed-out part (9) formed in the said anatomic miniplate (1) between the said stud (2) and the said attachment hole (3).

5. (Currently Amended) Miniplate according to ~~one of~~ claim[s] 1, ~~to 4 characterised in that~~ wherein the anatomic miniplate forms a single-piece part obtained by cutting a metal blank according to the sagittal profile and then stamping according to the frontal profile and folding the stud (2) at an angle equal to approximately 90°.

6. (Currently Amended) Miniplate according to ~~one of the previous~~ claim[s] 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the anatomic miniplate is made from stainless steel.

7. (Currently Amended) Miniplate according to ~~one of~~ claim[s] 1, ~~to 5, characterised in that~~ wherein the anatomic miniplate is made from titanium.

8. (Currently Amended) Miniplate according to ~~one of~~ claim[s] 1, ~~to 7, characterised in that~~ wherein the frontal and distal anatomic profiles of the anatomic mini-plate correspond to a right foot phalange or a left foot phalange respectively.

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9. (New) Miniplate according to claim 2, wherein the stud (2) and the hole (3) intended for the adjacent attachment screw located in the widest proximal part (4) of the phalange (5) are positioned approximately on the same transverse axis (x, x') of the phalange for better use of the available surface in this widened area (4) of the phalange (5).

10. (New) Miniplate according to claim 2 wherein the anatomic miniplate forms a single-piece part obtained by cutting a metal blank according to the sagittal profile and then stamping according to the frontal profile and folding the stud (2) at an angle equal to approximately 90°.

11. (New) Miniplate according to claim 3 wherein the anatomic miniplate forms a single-piece part obtained by cutting a metal blank according to the sagittal profile and then stamping according to the frontal profile and folding the stud (2) at an angle equal to approximately 90°.

12. (New) Miniplate according to claim 4 wherein the anatomic miniplate forms a single-piece part obtained by cutting a metal blank according to the sagittal profile and then stamping according to the frontal profile and folding the stud (2) at an angle equal to approximately 90°.